

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 LAB-04
HEW-06 HUD-02 DOTE-00 NAS-01 NSF-02 OPIC-06 FAA-00
EPAE-00 /158 W

-----112385 252045Z /72

R 251110Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8554

UNCLAS TEHRAN 5035

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: USIRJC, IR
SUBJ: POSSIBLE COOPERATION BETWEEN MAHAB AND
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED REQUEST FROM MAHAB, A QUASI-GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTING FIRM ATTACHED TO THE MINISTRY OF ENGRY, FOR ASSISTANCE FROM U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION IN MAHAB'S EFFORT TO EXPAND ITS OPERATIONS. END SUMMARY
2. MAHAB WAS CREATED NINE YEARS AGO TO ACT AS THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY'S CONSULTANT IN ALL MATTERS CONCERNING PLANNING OF WATER AND POWER DEVELOPMENT IN IRAN. IT PRESENTLY OVERSEES SOME 45 WATER AND POWER RELATED PROJECTS AND ANTICIPATES BIDDING ON 200 MORE PROJECTS OVER THE NEXT YEAR. THEREFORE IT PLANS TO EXPAND ITS SIZE FROM THE PRESENT LEVEL OF 125 TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO 350-400 LEVEL TO MEET THIS NEW DEMAND.
3. TOWARDS THIS END, MAHAB WOULD LIKE TO HIRE

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ABOUT TWENTY FOREIGN EXPERTS TO ASSIST IN THE EXPANSION. DEPUTY MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES HEJAZI OF THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY WROTE ON FEBRUARY 20 TO THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION TO REQUEST THEIR COLLABORATION AND EXPERTISE. THE BUREAU RESPONDED POSITIVELY, BUT ADVISED THAT THE REQUEST BE CHANNELLED FORMALLY THROUGH

THE EMBASSY.

4. MAHAB FORSEES THE NEED FOR ONE OR TWO ADVISERS IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- (A) WATER SUPPLY-CIVIL ENGINEER SKILLED IN BRINGING MUNICIPAL WATER TO CITIES FROM DAMS.
 - (B) SANITARY ENGINEERING-SEWAGE AND WASTE WATER TREATMENT.
 - (C) HYDRAULICS- EXPERT TO WORK IN LABORATORY PREPARING MODELS AND MOCK-UPS OF HYDRAULIC STRUCTURES.
 - (D) HYDROLOGY-HYDROLOGIST SKILLED IN REMOVING SEDIMENT FROM RESERVOIRS.
 - (E) HYDROLOGY-HYDROLOGIST SKILLED IN RIVER REGIME ANALYSIS.
 - (F) GEOTECHNIQUES- GEOPHYSICIST WITH EXPERIENCE WITH DAM AND EARTH CONSTRUCTION FOUNDATIONS TO ADVISE ON SEISMIC STABILITY
 - (G) SOIL MECHANICS- CIVIL ENGINEER TO ADVISE ON STABILITY OF SOIL WHERE DAM IS TO BE BUILT.
 - (H) HYDROELECTRIC AND MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT- CIVIL OR STRUCTURAL ENGINEER WITH RELAVANT EXPERIENCE.
 - (I) AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
 - (J) LAND CLASSIFICATION
 - (K) AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING
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(L) IRRIGATION ENGINEERING

5. THESE AMERICAN ADVISORS WOULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS: (A) OVERALL COORDINATION OF GROUP OR DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES, (B) TECHNICAL GUIDANCE IN PARTICULAR FIELD OF SPECIALIZATION, (C) TRAINING OF LOCAL STAFF AND (D) PREPARATION OF TECHNICAL GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS. EACH EXPERT IS EXPECTED TO TRAIN HIS SEVERAL COUNTERPARTS SO THAT THE EXPERT POSITIONS WILL PHASE OUT AFTER TWO, OR NOT MORE THAN THREE YEARS.

6. MAHAB HAS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO PAY FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE.

7. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION CONSIDER SENDING A REPRESENTATIVE TO IRAN TO MAKE A PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF THE POTENTIAL FOR COOPERATION. CONTACT POINT IN BUREAU IS JOSEPH CUTSCHALL, CHIEF OF FOREIGN ACTIVITIES DIVISION. SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC UTILITIES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), CONSULTANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TEHRAN05035
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780221-0809
Format: TEL
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780517/aaaaaocs.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 05723096-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2560554
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE COOPERATION BETWEEN MAHAB AND BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
TAGS: ENRG, SENV, IR, USIRJC, MAHAB
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/05723096-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014